

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The cable ownership

cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

If the public "right to know" retains any meaning as a concept, this move to remove the cable ownership cap and the broadcast/newspaper cross-ownership rule will nullify what remains of it. How can there be any diversity of viewpoint when one or, at best, two huge media conglomerates own all broadcasting and cable interests?

In such an environment, the hurdle to startup companies and opposing interests will be too high to surmount and diversity will submerge in a sea of corporate sameness - one view, one interest, one goal. I ask you to consider seriously the implications of what you propose.